

## New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services Veteran Directed Care (VD-Care) Program Information

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- The vision is to have a long-term service and supports (LTSS) system that is person-centered and consumer-directed, and that helps people at risk of institutionalization to continue to live at home and engage in community life. The Veteran Health Administration will increase access to HCBS to serve the growing demand of veterans who prefer independence at home over living in a nursing facility.
- The Veteran Directed Care (VDC) program provides veterans with opportunities to self-direct their LTSS and continue living independently at home. Eligible Veterans manage their own flexible budgets, decide what mix of goods and services best meet their needs, and hire and supervise their own workers. Through an options counselor, the Aging and Disability Network (ServiceLink) provides facilitated assessment and care/service planning, arranges fiscal management services, and provides ongoing counseling and support to veterans, their families, and caregivers.
- The VDC program serves Veterans of any age who are at risk of nursing home placement and their family caregivers. The VD-Care program provides Veterans the opportunity to receive home and community based services that enable them to avoid institutionalization and continue to live in their homes and communities.
- All Veterans enrolled in the VA health care system are eligible to participate in the VD-Care program when the Veteran is “in need of nursing home care” meets the eligibility criteria and is interested in self-directed care.
- National VAMC has identified 4 qualified providers for the VDC program - Units on Aging, ADRCs, CILs and AAA. In NH, ADRC network (ServiceLink) has been identified as providers for WRJ and Manchester VA. Through the agreement, ServiceLink works with either with one or both VAMCs. The VAMCs makes the referral directly to Service Link. ServiceLink staff process the referral, and proceeds to follow process for intake. The VAMC's function very differently including eligibility criteria. Each provider provides an assessment (Manchester VA conducts the assessment) options counseling, care management, and financial management services.
- The VAMCs would coordinate and facilitate meetings and/or trainings, which are mandated for ServiceLink staff to attend (often quarterly). In addition, as the Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Care Program evolves, it is expected that ServiceLink staff would collaborate with the VAMC to best serve Veterans.